TELEGRAPH HILL BULLETIN

No. 5 May 1957

The spring meeting of the Telegraph Hill Dwellers was held on April 10. Besides the election of officers for the coming year and amending the by-laws, members celebrated the third birthday of the Dwellers with a large cake, complete with a replica of Coit Tower.

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS: Kenneth Evers was re-elected president; John Malloch, vice-president; Dennis Flynn, treasurer; Melba Bloise, executive secretary, and Dorothy Elliott, assistant secretary. Elected to the Board of Directors (each from a different section) for a two year term were: Harold Goodkind, Jean Wolff, Henry Bohling and Lloyd Demerick. Patricia Carson Major was elected for one year to fill the unexpired term of John Brush, who resigned when he moved away from the Hill. Other directors whose two year terms expire next year are: Harold Weise, Attilio Massuco, George Dart Tong and David Myrick. As immediate past president, Fred Meyer is also a director.

CHANGE IN THE BY-LAWS: Members at the last meeting approved a new class of membership calling for associate members, known as "Friends of Telegraph Hill", who live away from the Hill, but who would like to take part in its activities. Membership dues are the same as regular members, and applications should be sent to Dennis Flynn at 516 Filbert Street. By the way, if you have a new neighbor, who is not yet a member, invite them to join now.

PEACH BLOSSOM FESTIVAL: On Sunday afternoon, March 17, Sil Cantelli held the Second Annual Peach Blossom Festival to celebrate the arrival of four blossoms on his peach tree (they were a little late this year) at his 103 year old residence on lower Alta Street. John Churchill drew the name of this year's Queen, Joy McLemore. Last year's Queen, Jean Van Dyck, and about thirty others witnessed the coronation.

ADVERTISING: We have several advertisements appearing in this issue, and we hope to have more in the future issues. Call David Myrick at YU 2-4670, or write to 263 Filbert Street for more information.

WASHINGTON SQUARE: The Park Commission has informally agreed to accept the plan submitted by the "Committee For the Beautification of Washington Square". This Committee is composed of representatives of ten civic groups, including the Telegraph Hill Dwellers. This project is bringing about unity among the civic clubs of this area.

THE NEW UNION GROCERY, nationally known as SPEEDIE'S and more recently as THE CLUB, has been operated by Leon and Irene for three years. They offer fresh fruits and vegetables, fine cuts of meat, and liquor and wine, including the famous Telegraph Hill Sherry. Stop in at 301 Union, corner of Montgomery, or call EX 2-9638 for free delivery. (adv.)

GRANT AVENUE STREET FAIR will be held on Sunday, June 16, from 10 A.M. to 10 P.M. There will be art and craft exhibits of all kinds as well as singing and marionettes. The Fair will be dedicated to an outstanding living San Francisco artist each time from this year on. This year's choice is Benny Bufano. As in the case of last year, volunteers are needed to help assemble decorations, which will be done on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of each of the first two weeks in June, with the final preparation on Saturday, just before the Fair. Call Kit Kitigaki at 1499 Grant Avenue (cor. Union) Tel. EX 2-5783.

UNDERGROUND WIRING: There have been delays in starting work on putting the wires underground on Montgomery Street. However, the committee, under the chairmanship of Jack Malloch, is making plans to have Telegraph Hill declared "an underground wiring area". Under this plan eventually wires would be removed from the entire Hill on an installment basis, starting from Pioneer Park and radiating downward.

APARTMENT WANTED ON TELEGRAPH HILL: Tired of living on Pacific Heights with no view, working girl wants a single apartment, preferably furnished, on the Hill with a view. If you have one for rent or know of one, please call her at OR 3-6421 between 5:30 P.M. and 7:00 P.M. (adv.)

FALL DANCE: Sure, it is still spring, but it is time to be thinking about ideas for the street dance planned for some Saturday night in October. Your thoughts will be welcomed by Ken Evers at 255 Chestnut Street (GA 1-2671).

(Over)

PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS: The North Beach Playground (it is between Mason and Powell, and Greenwich and Lombard) is reported to be the second oldest playground in San Francisco, dating back to 1905. Right now it is surfaced with asphalt, and efforts are being made to have the surface "turfed" so that it will be suitable for a baseball field. The Dwellers are lending their support to the other groups seeking to have this work included in the Park budget....In connection with the redevelopment of the area south of Broadway, including the "produce area", the Dwellers have urged that consideration be given to creating a small park on the south side of Broadway, near Montgomery, opposite the Washington Irving School. This little bit of greenery would add much to the south side of the Hill, to the school area, and also provide an outdoor place for the workers in the adjacent light industries to enjoy lunch.

LET'S GO TO THE THEATER: Friday, Saturday, and Sunday at 8:30 P.M. Leonard Bernstein's Sparkling Musical - WONDERFUL TOWN - Abbott-Abrams Productions, 1725 Washington Street, San Francisco 9. Telephone TUxedo 5-9935. (adv.)

MINING ON T-HILL: Gold quartz and nuggets have been found on the Hill many times in the early days, long before Emperor Norton and his more recently buried treasure. The daughter of no less than Governor John McDougal found gold quartz while playing at the base of the Hill. She broke off a sample, showed it to her father, who confirmed her discovery. However, returning to the site, she was unable to identify her location, and although many willing, in fact eager, hands joined in the search, it was never found....Broadway and Grant was the scene of a discovery in 1851, but after digging a fifty foot tunnel, the vein pinched out to nothing.....Later that year (September 29) a gold quartz vein was discovered above Clark's Point (Battery near Broadway, the site of the first ship's wharf in San Francisco) while grading a street, but after a brief flurry of excitement, it too pinched out.

In 1852, gold was found near the top of the Hill, and a year later, on October 22, on Green Street, between Grant and Stockton, a well digger found seven nuggets after going down thirty feet.....Along about 1878, after a heavy rain storm of several days, gold was panned near the present Filbert Steps for a few days. Near this same spot in 1936, after an old house had been demolished, and the refuse burned, people raking through the ashes found about $20 in silver coins which had been hidden and forgotten in the years gone by. Lignite was found on the Hill in 1884. Building stone quarrying took place for many years, but that is a story for another time.

WANTED: UNFURNISHED APARTMENT for tractable bachelor. View and separate bedroom preferred but not essential. To $125. Finder's fee: Pinch Bottle Fifth. Please call Joe Robinson during the day at GA 1-3638. (adv.)

HERE IS ANOTHER RECIPE from Dorothy Lathrop: Roast Loin of Pork - Have the butcher prepare as many loin pork chops as desired. Have the chops partially cut for easier serving, and have the lower bone cut. Between each chop place a slice of mushroom, either fresh or dried(the latter should be soaked in water to soften). Add pepper, and little thyme, if you like, but no salt. Just before putting the roast in the 325° oven for 35 minutes per pound, pour Japanese soy sauce over the roast (be sure to get the Japanese soy sauce,and not the Chinese, as it is not as sweet). Your correspondent has enjoyed the other recipes prepared by excellent chefs and hopes you have tried them also.

HERE AND THERE: The Norwegian Ambassador wrote us about our reference to him in a recent Bulletin. Speaking of the Hill, he said in part, "I have always found it a very fascinating place and used to walk there on several occasions when I stayed at the Fairmont Hotel....." Pal Joey, took over Pioneer Park during part of April, disturbing tourists as well as natives. As one lady from Boston said, "I went up to the top to see the view, and all I could see were large Pal Joey trucks".....Mrs. Raymonde Theill, our former Executive Vice President, has just returned from a trip around the world. She remarked that Hong Kong is a city of great contrasts, but the hills reminded her of Telegraph Hill.

CENTRAL COUNCIL OF CIVIC CLUBS: The Dwellers are one of the 47 members of the Central Council of Civic Clubs, and as such each member of the Dwellers is welcome to attend their monthly meeting which is held in the Odd Fellows Hall, Seventh and Market Streets, on the first Friday of each month at 8:00 P.M.